

UNNAYAN SANGHA (US)

Dewrpar Chandra, Jamalpur-2000



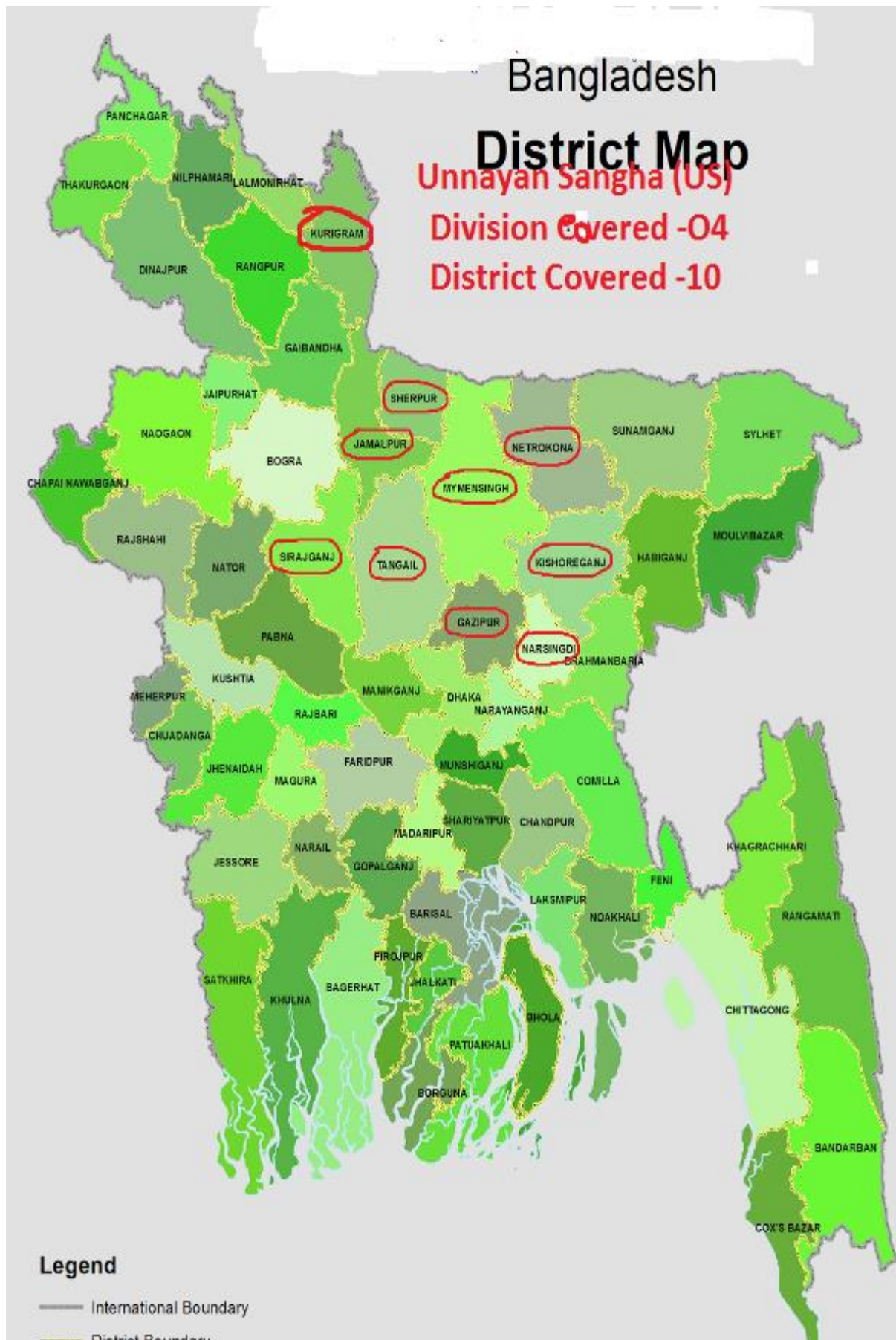
Annual Report

July 2018 to June 2019

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Working Area-



General Committee (GC) Members-

 Mr. AHM Fazlul Karim, Member Madhabpur, Sadar, Sherpur	 Mr. Moazzem Hossain, Member West Nayapara, Sadar, Jamalpur	 Engr. Mahbub Ul Huda, Member Balair Char, Chalkshahabdi, Sherpur
 Shek. Mohammed Momenul Alam, Chairman, Balair Char, Char Shreepur, Sherpur	 Ms. Sajeda Parvin Jhinuk, Member, Monirajpur Road, Botala, Sadar, Jamalpur	 Ms. Sabera Huda, Member Balair Char, Chalkshahabdi, Sherpur
 Ms. Shamima Khan, Member Shahid Harun Sarak, Sadar, Jamalpur	 Ms. Rebeka Sultana, Member Jamalpur Town, Sadar, Jamalpur	 Jamal Uddin, Member Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur
 Abdul Aziz Sarker, Member Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur	 Shakhawat Hossain, Member Nayapara, Sadar, Jamalpur	 Golam Mahbub, Member Chalkshahabdi, Sadar, Sherpur
 Abdul Malek, Cashier Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur	 Ms. Supti Gomez, Member College Road, Sadar, Jamalpur	 Ms. Atikunnahar, Joint Secretary Pakuria, Sadar, Sherpur
 Md. Nurul Islam, Vice Chairman Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur	 Md. Rafiqul Alam Mollah, General Secretary, Sarishabari, Jamalpur	 Adv. Shamim Ara, Member Lichutala, Sadar, Jamalpur
 Ms. Rowshan Ara, Member Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur	 Dr. Md. Mahmud Ul Huda, Member Sardarpara, Sadar, Jamalpur	

Executive Committee (EC) Members-



Skh. Md. Mominul Alam,
Chairman
Vill. Balair Char, Sadar,
Char Shreepur, Sherpur



Md. Nurul Islam
Vice Chairman,
Balairchar, Sadar,
Sherpur



Md. Rafiqul Alam Mollah
General Secretary,
Vill. Pogol Digha
Sarishabari, Jamalpur



Ms. Atikunnahar
Joint Secretary,
Pakuria, Sadar, Sherpur



Abdul Malek, Cashier,
Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur



Ms. Rebeka Sultana,
Member
Jamalpur Town, Sadar,
Jamalpur



Ms. Rowshan Ara,
Member
Balairchar, Sadar, Sherpur

Board of Directors-



Md. Rafiqul Alam Mollah
Executive Director



Md. Mahbubul Huda
Deputy Executive Director



Narayan Chandra Das
Director-Programs

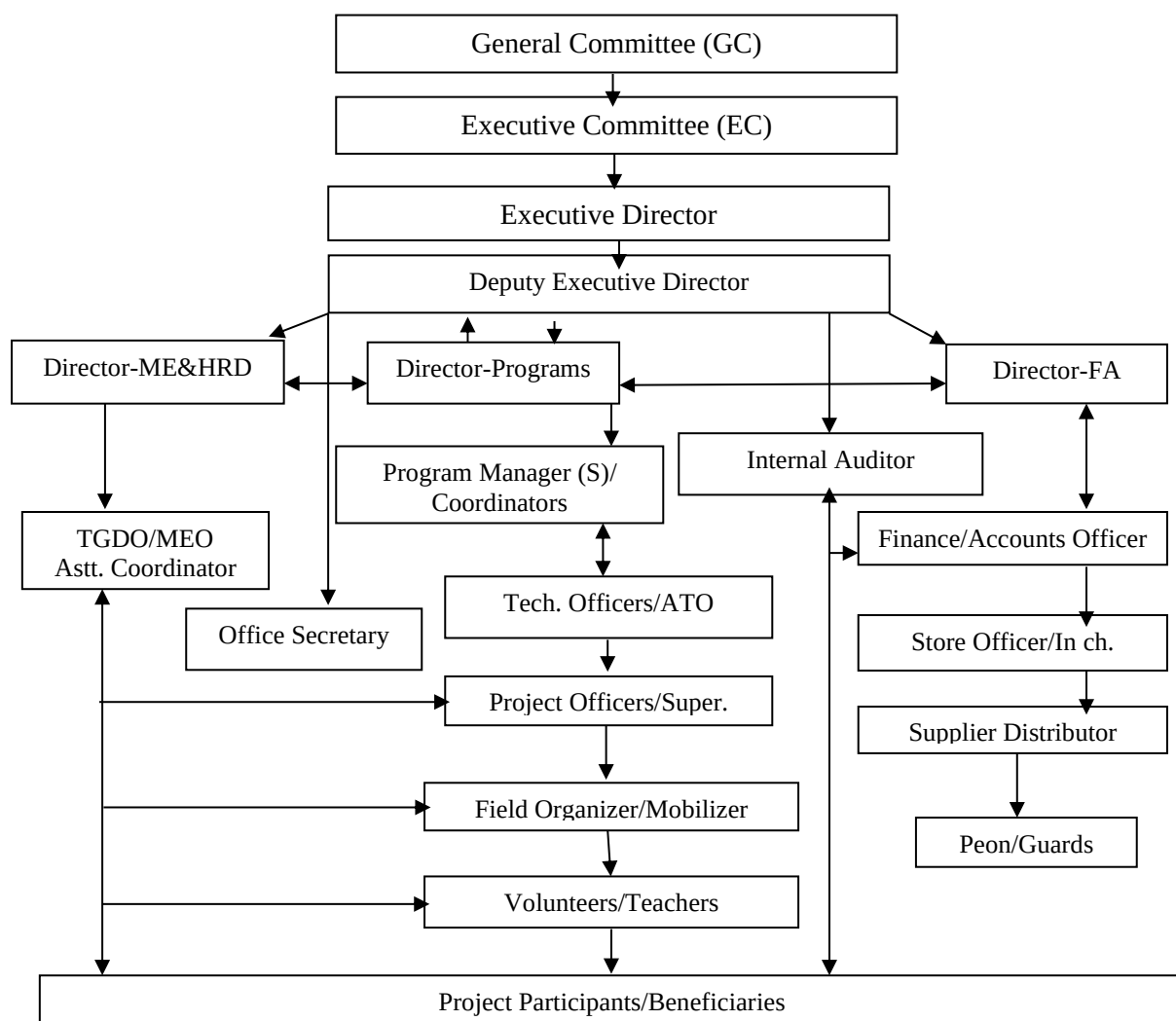


Md. Zahangir Alam Salim
Director-ME& HRD



Md. Ziaur Rahman
Director-Finance & Admin

Organogram of the Organization-





Message from Executive Director-

Unnayan Sangha (US) is a non-government, non-profitable and non-political organization established in 1980 by some of the enthusiastic and benevolent persons of Jamalpur and Sherpur district with a view to help poor people of the area. For running the organization smoothly, two different committees of Unnayan Sangha are functioning well. The general committee of the organization consisted of 21 members in whom 8 are female and in the executive committee 3 are female out of 7 members.

The head office of the organization is situated in Jamalpur District. It has been working within the 55 Upazilas of Jamalpur, Sherpur, Mymensingh, Netrokona, Kishoreganj, Narsingdi, Gazipur, Tangail, Sirajganj and Kurigram Districts.

US works in two different approaches: Group based approach and community based approach. Unnayan Sangha is a Child Focused Organization.

For well implementation of development activities and ensuring good governance and human rights especially children and women rights, the organization has gained a good partnership with Bangladesh Government, different national & international organizations including donors, like-European Union (EU), Oxfam, World Vision, Unicef Bangladesh, UNFPA, WFP, CIDA, UKAid/DFID, WSUP, USAID, AusAid, ADH-Germany, Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), CARE Bangladesh, Stromme Foundation, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Action aid Bangladesh, Chemonics International, Nari Pokkho, Manusher Janno Foundation, Aparajeyo Bangladesh, NGO Forum etc.

US has a good relationship with local Administration, line departments like- Health & Family Planning, Fisheries & Livestock, Agriculture, Social Services, local government, NGOs, local elites and community people. During implementation of various development activities, local administration, line departments and other stakeholders helped us by providing logistic and other supports.

Among above stated activities, some are operated with the financial support of different donors and some other are continued with organizational own support.

We try to receive all suggestions and recommendations positively from any individual, NGOs, INGOs and Donor organizations for overall development of Unnayan Sangha.

Md. Rafiqul. AlamMollah
Executive Director

Overview of Unnayan Sangha (US)-

Year of establishment : 1980.

Nature of organization : Non govt. Non-political and Non-profit making organization.

Legitimacy

Registered under Social service department: No. Ma-0200/81, Date-01/04/1981.

Registered under NGO affairs Bureau: No.DSS/FDO/R-310, Date- 29/07/1989, Renewal date :29/7/2014

Registered under Micro-Credit Regulatory Authority:
No. 05225-02132-00092, Date: 1January'2008

Registration under Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860 with Joint Stock Companies and Firms:

No. S-11556 dated 15 October, 2012

Vision:

The vision of the organization is “A society, based on equality, fairness and good governance, which can ensure sustainable development and people’s empowerment”.

Mission:

To work with exploited and disadvantaged groups of the people particularly poor, ultra-poor, Indigenous groups and differently able communities, men, women and children living in plain land, river basin and hilly/haor areas of Bangladesh for their socio-economic development implementing different socio-economic and right based development programs.

Experience of Unnayan Sangha (US):

US has 39 years experience on implementation of livelihoods development, food security, health-hygiene and nutrition, WASH, education, market development, value chain development, child protection & gender development, DRR and climate change adaptation etc. in char, hoar, hilly and plain land areas within 10 districts of Bangladesh . On the other hand it has experience on Khas land arrangement for landless households advocating government, community participation and engagement, coordination, cooperation with GO, NGO, Donor, LGI, community & other stakeholders and organizing people, managing programs-events, facilitating communities, training, Workshop, advocating/dialogue at various level.

Thematic Area of US

- Education
- Health hygiene & nutrition
- Livelihoods & economic empowerment
- Child protection
- Gender equity & women empowerment
- Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation
- Child and Adult Education
- Human rights

Major Program/Projects implemented by Unnayan Sangha (US) in the recent Past-

- Chars Livelihoods Programme (CLP)
- SHOUHARDO-I & II Programme
- Land Tenure Project
- South Asia WASH Result Program (SAWRP)
- Provision of Life Saving Child Protection & Emergency Education Services to the Flood Affected People in Jamalpur District of Bangladesh
- Maternal and Neonatal Health Initiative (MNHI)
- Primary Eye Care Project (PICP)
- Child and Women Rights Project (CWRP)
- Women Friendly Hospital Initiative (WFHI) in Sherpur
- Agriculture & Livestock Development Project (ALDP)
- Assistance for Flood Affected Women and Girls(Women Friendly Space)
- UN-Joint Program on WASH and Nutrition
- Bangladesh Local Procurement Pilot Project (BLPP)
- Maternal Neonatal and Child Survival (MNCS)
- Community Mobilization to Promote Social Chang
- Maternal and Young Child Nutrition Security Initiative (MYCNSI)
- Juvenile Justice Program (JJP)
- Ending Child Marriage(ECM)

Implemented Programs/Projects during reporting period in July 2018-June 2019-

- Improved Institutional Responses to Children in Contact/Conflict with the Law (IIRCCL) Project
- School Feeding Program (SFP)
- Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate change Adaptation, Leadership & Learning (REE-CALL2021) Project
- Improving the Well-Being of Adolescents with an Emphasis on Ending Child Marriage Project
- Nutrition Sensitive Value Chains for Smallholder Farmers (NSVC) Project
- Bangladesh Flood Response Project in Jamalpur
- Bangladesh Initiative to Enhance Nutrition Security and Governance (BIeNGS) Project
- Improving Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights including Maternal and Newborn Health (SRHR&MNH) Project
- Enhancing the participation of CBO and CSO in democratic governance in Bangladesh (EU-CSO Project)
- Strengthening Economic Empowerment with Dignity and Sustainability (SEEDS) Project
- Housing Project (HP)
- Savings Management Program (SMP)
- US-Child City
- Development Training and Resource Centre (DTRC)

Programs/Projects Description:

1. Improved Institutional Responses to Children in Contact/Conflict with the Law (IIRCCL) Project-

The project has been implementing since January 2016 in partnership with the Aparajeyo Bangladesh with the financial support of **European Union** and it will be continued up to December 2019. **The overall objective of the project is to provide greater protection for children in conflict with the law (CCL) through the accessing of rights and by improving institutional responses through strengthening of juvenile justice situation.** Huge remarkable successes already achieved through the project activities implementation in reporting period with some challenges, failures and learning. Under the project established Child Welfare Desk at Jamalpur Sadar Police Station which is functioning well, formed Lawyer Federation that is also performing very nicely for providing legal representation of children in contact/conflict with the law, built up good reputation and relation with police, district administration, journalist, directorate of social welfare office, women and child welfare department. The Child Welfare Committee, Youth Advocates are also functioning well following their assignment for accessing child rights under the project.



The specific objectives of the project are-

Specific Objective 1: Protect the rights of children during arrest, detention and trial. It will do so by establishing Child Welfare Desks in police stations and providing legal representation.

Specific objective 2: Divert children away from arrest, detention and imprisonment, where it is in the best interests of the child and promote rehabilitation by promoting community mediation through Child Welfare Committees and establishing a bail supervision and support scheme and rehabilitation and reunification program.

Specific objective 3: Lobby the government for juvenile justice reform and the replication of models of good practice developed.

Achievement in reporting period:

- 12 children (girls-4, boys-8) enrolled in Safe Shelters
- Performed 12 monthly meeting with child welfare committee
- 37 children (girls-17, boys-20) diverted through child welfare desk
- 28 children (girls-14, boys-14) reunified with families
- 33 children (girls-16, boys-17) diverted through Child Welfare Committee (CWC)
- Conducted 12 Lawyers Panel monthly meeting
- Performed 12 monthly meeting of Community Volunteers & Youth Advocates
- Peer Support Scheme implemented where 680 children (girls-380, boys-300) were benefited
- 2 Youth Advocate's awareness campaigns performed where total 500 youths (girls-200, boys-300) were participated in two campaigns
- 95 child group meeting conducted where total 1270 children (girls-770, boys-500) participated in these meetings
- Case movement for 7 children (girls-3, boys-4)

Challenges faced:

- We faced little bit problems to rescue children from police station, safe center arrangement before handover, primary treatment and feeding relating budget and keep children in government shelter homes.
- Some parents were not agreed to receive their children after rescue

Immediate Results-

- Separate room established in police station for functioning the child welfare desk
- Authorities of each police stations under Jamalpur district communicate with Unnayan Sangha (US) when any children come in conflict/contact with the law
- Panel lawyers are practicing UNCRC & Children act 2013 as right now they are well oriented on these documents under the project
- CWC members are helping for diversion of the children
- Relation between police & CWC is improving day by day
- Volunteers & Youth Advocates are working as change maker of the society

2. School Feeding Program (SFP)-

The program has been implementing since May 2015 in Madarganj upazila and July 2018 in Islampur upazila under Jamalpur district with technical assistance of World Food Program (WFP) and financial support of Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) considering both of these upazilas are poverty prone areas in Bangladesh. **The aim of the program is to achieve the SDG-4 through ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030.** Under the program, 38,373 students (Girls-19,433, Boys- 18,980) of 207 government primary schools including 7 government approved Ebtadayee Madrasas of Madarganj upazila and 34,405 students (Girls-18,430, Boys- 15,975) of 172 government primary schools including 18 government approved Ebtadayee Madrasas of Islampur upazila are receiving each student 0.75 gram weight one nutritious biscuit for every school day.



The Objectives of the Program are –

Objective 1: To increase enrollment and attendance of pre and primary schools in the food insecure areas.

Objective 2: To improve learning ability of the primary school children through deduction of micronutrient deficiencies.

Objective 3: To enhance GoB capacity to implement school feeding program efficiently and effectively.

Achievement in reporting period:

- For Islampur upaila, biscuit received 438.00 metric tons, distributed in schools 426.765 metric tons and closing balance was at warehouse 11.235 metric tons. For Madarganj upazila, previous balance was 18.1896 metric tons, biscuit received 462.00 metric tons, distributed in schools 416.895 metric tons and closing balance was 63.2946 metric tons at warehouse as of 31st June 2019.
- Established vegetable garden in 88 school premises of Islampur upazila and 96 school premises of Madarganj upazila.
- Arranged 76 mother gatherings in Islampur upazila and 60 in Madarganj upazila.
- Visited 772 households in Islampur upazila and 600 households in Madarganj upazila.

- Arranged 246 courtyard meetings in Islampur upazila and 420 in Madarganj upazila.
- Conducted 14 parents meetings in Islampur upazila and 14 in Madarganj upazila.
- Attended 9 monthly teacher coordination meetings of Islampur upazila and 12 of Madarganj upazila.
- Performed upazila level 4 quarterly coordination meetings with UEO in Islampur upazila and 4 meetings in Madarganj upazila.
- Conducted 257 SMC meetings in Islampur upazila and 420 meetings in Madarganj upazila.
- Performed 12 program office level monthly staff coordination meetings separately in both upazilas
- Performed half yearly 2 coordination meetings with District Primary Education Officer (DPEO), Jamalpur with jointly presence of MRO Madarganj Team and MRO Islampur upazila teams.

Challenges faced:

- Delivery of biscuits at school level during flood was so difficult
- Establishment of vegetable gardens at school level and ensure its proper nursing
- Regular maintaining of biscuit distribution documents by respective school teachers

Immediate Results-

- Student attendance rate increased 5% in both working upazilas.
- Student dropout rate reduced 2.02% in both working upazilas.
- Water and sanitation status improved in 107 schools of Islampur upazila and 90 schools of Madarganj upazila.
- 99% children enrolled in schools as per survey of both upazilas.
- 95% students consume nutritious biscuit in their schools of Islampur upazila and 90% of Madarganj upazila.
- 80% students bring water bottles and Tiffin boxes regularly and its using practice rate are increasing day by day for both working upazilas.
- Female attendance rate in SMC meeting are increasing day by day at present which rate is 45% for Islampur upazila and 60% for Madarganj upazila.

3. Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate change Adaptation, Leadership & learning (REE-CALL 2021)-

The project has been implementing at Bakshiganj and Dewanganj upazilas under Jamalpur district since October 2017 in partnership with Oxfam Bangladesh and funded by the DFAT-ANCP and it will be continued up to June 2021. **The goal of the project is by 2021, vulnerable women, men and institutions in rural areas are more resilient to social, economic and climate shocks and stresses.** It is a comprehensive project for enhance capacity and knowledge of very disaster affected people who are facing different problem and limitation such as lack of knowledge, extreme poverty, frequent and long term flood, river erosion, impact of climate change, violence against women. US has been working under the project to enhance capacity, knowledge, awareness, climate adaptation, leadership, learning and economical flows of targeted char people through community based approach.



The Objectives of the Project are-

Objective 1: Women, men, their families and communities have benefited from sustainable and equitable economic activity.

Objective 2: Government, communities and civil society have driven sustainable and inclusive climate action and disaster risk reduction through collective effort.

Objective 3: Duty bearers and lawmakers have developed policies and demonstrated practices that better incorporate the interests and rights of marginalized people and communities.

Achievement in reporting period:

- Organize producer group and link with different market/value chain actors around sunflower, beef , ground nut, pond fish and duck
- Strengthen programmatic relationship with all the relevant line ministries and research institute like DAE, BARI, BINA, DLS, BLRI, WRC, PRC, DoF and FRI
- Business plan and market extension plan development training to operate business efficiently
- Start up support for demonstrating integrated farming
- Linkage meeting with inputs and output market actors to access to services and competitive price
- Provide certified vocational /entrepreneurship training to transfer marketable skills to community youths by signing formal MOU with potential technical training institutes
- Advocacy with the employers to ensure job opportunities and decent work environment
- Job fair at local level
- Develop linkage with financial institutions
- Pilot mentorship, internship and apprenticeship models
- Awareness training (couple meeting) on reducing care work burden to redistribute, reduction and recognition of care work
- Capacity building of producer group (Dairy, Maize etc.)on modern dairy production
- Capacity building of producer group (Dairy, Maize etc.) on marketing and facilitating market linkage
- Workshop with Farmer on private sector requirement
- PCVA for existing CBO's
- Demonstration of eco-friendly and climate adaptive agriculture technology
- Capacity building of UDMC, CBOs and youth network to localize early warning system
- Training (2 days) on WWP approach for WWP members from newly formed CBOs (Residential)
- 1 day refreshers training on WWP for WWP members on WASH situation analysis and review action plan (nonresidential)
- 2 day refreshers training on WASH promotion for WWP members (residential)
- 6 day (2 hours/day) refreshers training on WASH promotion (6 Issues) for C2C group leader (2 children from each group) - materials & refreshment
- Refreshers on "Community Managed WASH Infrastructure Operation and Management" (1 day) for WWP, CBO and O&M committee members to enhance capacity for operating and managing WASH infrastructure
- Refresher (1 day) on sanitation marketing approach for the members of Latrine production center, WWP and CBO
- Training (2 days) for caregivers on Disability of WASH (nonresidential)
- Bathing Cubical construction
- Installation of Resilient and inclusive deep tube well
- Installation of Improved Latrine
- Training on operation and management on Menstrual Hygiene Material Production (5 days)

- Establish Community based WASH enterprise Centre (Sanitary latrine production center/Hygiene Centre/TW instating group) at community level
- Develop local resource person on agriculture and non-agriculture activities to ensure technical services at local level
- Strengthen CBO alliance/platforms at union level
- Quarterly CBO alliances meeting to strengthen network, community actions
- Strengthen multi-stakeholder forum at District/Upazila level
- Upazila level dialouge on "reducing barriers to women mobility"
- Capacity building of UDC
- Formation and facilitation of youth network
- 16 day activism at Union, Upazila level
- Training on Women Transformative Leadership for CBOs women member
- Sensitization training for men, spouse and parents on Gender, Diversity and Equality
- Youth Capacity Development Training on Leadership, Gender, Diversity and Equality
- VAW situation monitoring and sharing by CBO leaders, Youth and Adolescent group
- Showcasing women production (Women holiday market at local level)
- Women Community Leaders platform's initiatives at Local level to Upazila level

Challenges faced:

- Self-seeking minded CBO leaders & CBO lose their interest due to less direct support
- Meeting minutes writing by the CBO leaders is challenging because most of the CBO members are not comfortable to write.
- Establishment of women leadership in CBO, PG and others
- Frequent budget allocation for new activities from Oxfam which needs clearance from NGOAB

Immediate results:

- Women economic empowerment increased and reduced domestic violence and promoted men's roles in care work
- Practically the poor people have gained more sense of ownership and commitment to participate in CBO activities sustainably
- Right now young people are the driving force of the society so that they are organized from the local stage⁴

4. Improving the Well-Being of Adolescents with an Emphasis on Ending Child Marriage Project-

The project implemented since October 2017 to November 2018 in partnership with UNICEF Bangladesh and financed by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) as Jamalpur is one of the highest rated district with child marriage in Bangladesh. **The aim of the project is to stop the child marriage and improve adolescent wellbeing at Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas in Jamalpur district.** There are some major reasons behind child marriage like-traditional, social, cultural, religious norms, concomitant social pressure on families and girls. Poverty, lack of knowledge and understanding of communities and capacity gaps of the duty bearers are central factors of high prevalence of child marriage.

The Outputs of the Project are-

Output 1: By August 2017, 64,510 people of Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas have enhanced capacities for the well-being of adolescents with a focus on ending harmful practices and up taking new behaviors.

Output 2: 36,280 adolescents from 180 communities of Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas have strengthened capacities and engaging communities for the well-being of adolescents with a focus on ending child marriage.

Output 3: Effective and efficient program management

Achievement in reporting period:

- Conducted refresher training on script, character, delivery and costume for Interactive Popular Theater (IPT) Group of 32 persons
- Organized 8 batches day-long orientation for school teachers on menstruation hygiene management
- Performed 180 IPT shows on child marriage and adolescent health
- Established/inaugurated adolescents friendly health services corner at MCWC, Jamalpur
- Organized 2 local level campaigns on ending child marriage at Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas
- Conducted 1080 court yard meetings with women and adolescents
- Performed 45,000 household visits for sensitizing family members on ECM and adolescents wellbeing
- Organized 3 quarterly coordination meetings with Community Volunteers

Challenges faced:

- Male participation in court yard sessions were not enough
- Smooth communication/coordination was very difficult considering scattered char areas
- In some cases, event starting times were delayed for the orientation of UP bodies
- Inadequate number of staff for implementing all assigned project activities

Immediate Impacts:

- Raised awareness on demerit of child marriage among community people
- Increased awareness among UP members, Teachers, Imam, Kazi regarding their responsibilities against child marriage
- Community people are using government toll free number for protecting child marriage
- 242 child marriages stopped during reporting period with supportive cooperation of UP members, women affairs department and administration

5. Nutrition Sensitive Value Chains for Smallholder Farmers (NSVC) Project-

The project has been implementing at Dewanganj and Islampur upazilas under Jamalpur district since February 2018 in partnership with World Vision Bangladesh and funded by the DFAT-ANCP and it will be continued up to June 2022. **The goal of the project is Smallholder farmers and their families have improved nutrition and economic empowerment.** Adopting a nutrition-sensitive agriculture (NSA) approach, the project has been working to improve nutrition through multiple pathways. First pathway is to increase income of smallholder farmers (20-90 decimal land owners) through value chain development. Second pathway is to improve the utilization and consumption of nutritious food at the household level by increasing availability of nutritious foods for consumption. Third pathway is to increase gender equitable relations using the MenCare approach. Fourth pathway is to increase learning on nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Bangladesh.



The Outcomes of the Project are-

Outcome 1: Male and female producers have increased their income from value chain activities

Outcome 2: Farming households have improved consumption and utilization of nutritious food

Outcome 3: Farmer households have increased gender equitable relations

Outcome 4: Increased learning on nutrition sensitive agriculture in Bangladesh

Achievement in reporting period:

- Conducted union level 6 sensitization meetings on project activities
- Capacity building of 18 project staff on leadership and management
- Formed 457 producer groups with 11,425 selected smallholder farmers
- Trained 84 CFs & UFs on local value chain development, agriculture crops and vegetables
- Input/vegetable seed support among 5245 PG farmers and provide smart subsidy among 14 new women entrepreneurs as per business plan.
- Organized 3,624 monthly meetings of Producer Groups
- Formed 153 IYCF groups with 2015 eligible members from the existing producer groups
- Organized awareness session for 1,288 IYCF group members on nutritious foods and storage, using new BCC and IEC materials
- Provided chicken supports among 1113 IYCF members for creating animal protein source and input supports micronutrient gardening
- Formed 35 MenCare groups with 720 suitable couple from existing producer groups
- Organized drama and folk song event in 24 spots to raise awareness building among PG members and community peoples on nutrition, marketing, agriculture, MenCare, gender and disaster
- Organized 24 UDMC, UzDMC and DDMC meetings respectively at unions, upazilas and district level
- Organized 8 combined monitoring and evaluation visits at field level collaboration with relevant government official, NSVC-WVB official and Unnyan Sangha official.

Challenges faced:

- Flood affection hampered routing works including cultivation of homestead and field crops
- Participation of male PG members in group meeting, training sessions and others events are not up to the mark due to their engagement in agriculture for labor selling; sometimes their own harvesting
- In mixed PGs, women members do not feel comfortable to raise their voice in front of male members.
- Adaptation of improved agriculture technology for less educated farmers and transformation of messages into practice level

Immediate Impacts:

- Farmers are feeling interest for receiving new technology, varieties and accordingly they are adopting the idea
- Producer Group (PG) members are practicing to prepare business plan and keeping their records for income expenditure
- Participation of relevant government officials, their commitment is growing up between PG members and GoB services provides
- Relation between men and women are becoming more suitable through enjoying the discussion of men-care sessions
- PG members are adopting early variety than earlier for increasing income and avoiding flood risk

6. Bangladesh Flood Response project in Jamalpur-

The project implemented since April 2018 to December 2018 at Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas under Jamalpur district in partnership with World Vision Bangladesh and financed by ADH Germany.

The goal of the project was to meet the immediate and intermediate needs of flood affected 2000 families and children in Jamalpur district of Bangladesh (approximate 10,000 people).

The heavy and unusual monsoon rains over last few days in August 2017 and onrush of water from upstream caused flood and hit 31 districts of the northern and north-eastern part of Bangladesh. The overall situation worsened up to 18th August 2017 when eighteen rivers were observed to be above danger level. The worse hit districts were identified and Jamalpur one of them. 191km of the village earthen road and about 50km cobbled/concrete road were partially or fully damaged due to devastation of flood. More than 12,000 hectares of crops and other vegetables had damaged by the flooding in Dewanganj and Islampur upazilas of Jamalpur district which created a negative impact on the food security of the most vulnerable households. This is why the project initiated to meet emergency needs and recovery activities for the most flood vulnerable extreme poor people.



The Outputs of the Project are-

Output 1: The vulnerable population has access to WASH and Nutrition

Output 2: Road and communication system within the area is reconstructed

Output 3: The target population has increased knowledge on climate resilient income options and health & nutrition practices during emergency

Achievement in reporting period:

- CI sheet distribution for house making among 100 households
- Hygiene kits distribution among 400 households
- Supplementary food distribution among 400 pregnant and lactating mothers
- Duck distribution among 902 households with training on rearing
- Goat distribution among 100 households with training on rearing
- Vegetable seeds and fertilizer distribution with training among 400 eligible households
- Install 200 low cost health hygiene latrines for vulnerable families
- Installed 40 tube wells including platform
- Flood affected 6 kilometres kacha road and communication is reconstructed
- Training/workshop/meeting at union and upazila levels

Challenges faced:

- Number of beneficiaries were less comparison with the demand of huge beneficiary numbers
- No support/access of motorbikes, computers and other relevant equipments
- Timely fund receiving from donor and partner organization World Vision Bangladesh
- River erosion, frequent migration in and out from selected working areas

Immediate results:

- Target population has increased knowledge on climate resilient income options and health & nutrition practices during emergency

- Mostly flood affected kacha roads and communications systems are reconstructed for as usual movement of vulnerable people
- Target people have gained alternative IGAs like-goat rearing, duck rearing for their early recovery

7. Bangladesh Initiative to Enhance Nutrition Security and Governance (BIeNGS) Project-

The project has been implementing since November 2018 at Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas under Jamalpur district and Sherpur Sadar upazila under Sherpur district in partnership with World Vision Bangladesh and funded by European Union and Australian Aid. The project will be continued up to June 2023. **The goal of the project is “Improved nutrition status of children and mothers in nutritionally vulnerable areas of Jamalpur & Sherpur Districts by March 2023 by promoting multi-sector, pro-poor governance models”.**



The objectives of the project are-

- Improved nutrition and hygiene practice amongst caregivers of children under five (U5), pregnant and lactating women (PLW), adolescent girls through promotion by multi-sector local actors
- Increased quality and utilization of nutrition (sensitive) services through pro-poor governance and capacity development
- Improved household food consumption, through improved household food production, increased income, and equitable participation in household decision making and nutrition sensitive value chains
- Improved efficiency and effectiveness of nutrition (sensitive) activities through enhanced multi- sector coordination of local public and private nutrition stakeholders and locally informed nutrition advocacy

Achievement in reporting period:

- Conducted district and upazila level 5 stakeholders sensitization/inception meetings
- Deployed 18 project staff, 52 Community Facilitators, 111 Community Nutrition Promoters
- Facilitated 4 days long ToT for government Master Trainers and service providers on the nutrition-sensitive training module
- Facilitated 2 days long training for Community Group on basic nutrition including IYCF, GMP, adolescent health and nutrition, ANC, PNC and consequence of early marriage and the roles and responsibility to improve quality nutrition service, to conduct home visits
- Formed 153 Producer Groups (PG) and conducted their planning meetings on selective crops production
- Capacity building of health workers and Community Nutrition Promoters to promote a healthy lifestyle for adolescents adopting existing government module on adolescent nutrition
- Workshop with existing micro-credit service providers, traders, wholesaler, input suppliers, private sector companies and DAE to connect producer groups to different market actors and replicate zero cost extension services.
- Oriented Union, Upazila, and Zila Parishads, Standing Committees, community groups, and religious leaders on existing government and community programs

- ToT for Government Extension Officers at Upazila and Union level on Local Value Chain Development, nutrition and climate smart technologies

Challenges faced:

- Frequent drop out of Community Facilitators, Community Nutrition Promoters and PDH Volunteers
- Reformation and functioning Community Group (CG), Community Support Groups (CSG)
- Adverse flood situation hampered normal activities
- Dimension of field activities within a short period of time
- Arrange all government stakeholders in same date/time arrangement

Immediate results:

- Government line departments officials are motivated for ensuring their supports as per project needs
- Relevant stakeholders of the project are sensitized regarding implementation strategy and approach of project activities
- Local healthcare providers, extension officers, teachers, and CNPs trained on government nutrition curriculum

8. Improving Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights including Maternal and Newborn Health (SRHR&MNH) Project-

The project has been implementing collaboration with the health and family planning department of Bangladesh Government since December 2018 in partnership with UNICEF and financing by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) aim to reduce maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity as well as improving adolescent wellbeing. Basically the project mostly involve in demand creation regarding maternal, newborn and adolescent health of the community through organizing different activities like- courtyard session, family counseling, referral mechanism with the support of Union Parishad, Community Group and Community Support Group those are connected with Community Clinic Management and Services. **The overall objective of the project is to develop practices on maternal, neonatal and adolescent health behaviors in the marginalized family of the community.** The project will be run up to December 2020 and all upazilas of Jamalpur district are the working area under the project.



The Outcomes of the Project are-

Output 1: By 2021 local governance improved for producing functional linkages with local health systems to ensure equitable access to maternal newborn child and adolescent health

Output 2: By 2021 capacity of service providers increased for improving quality of MNC&AH service delivery

Output 3: By 2021 appropriate knowledge, caring practices and demand for maternal newborn child and adolescent health services is increased among the focus population (adolescents, girls and women, pregnant and lactating mothers, newborn and children under one year of age)

Output 4: By 2021 community health systems strengthened through improved health Information systems, defaulter tracking of service users, and maternal perinatal death surveillance and responses

Achievement of reporting period:

- Trained 612 CHVs on ANC, PNC, counseling, referral and reporting system

- Sensitized 307 potential stakeholders on maternal, neonatal and adolescent health at upazila and district level
- Formed 6,120 women groups (Pregnant women, lactating mother, mother in law) for increasing awareness on maternal and newborn health
- Formed 1224 adolescent groups (boys and girls) for increasing awareness on adolescent health
- Performed 136 IPT shows at ward level with covering 33,577 people
- Organized 22 Mother Assembly at Jamalpur Sadar and Melandah Upazilas with covering 1048 pregnant mother, 567, under 2 years children and 554 adolescents. Through the mother assembly 1352 persons identified their blood group, 1048 pregnant mothers received ANC, 1048 persons examined Albumen, 567 children participated in MUAC measurement and 554 adolescent participated in counseling sessions.
- Provided 36 referral supports for pregnant, newborn and adolescents
- Conducted 08 joint monitoring visits with health and family planning managers
- Developed 1400 household maps and 290 Community Action Plan at CC level

Challenged Faced:

- CG, UDCC and UHEFW standing committee meetings arrangement without refreshment
- Ensure expected performance of CHVs by less honorarium payment

Immediate results:

- Increasing mothers enrolment and institutional delivery specially at UHC
- Increasing pregnant women care at family level
- Increasing knowledge on maternal and adolescent health care and management related messages at the family level
- Religious leaders and teachers are sensitized on maternal, newborn health care, SRHR issues and they discuss on issues at institutions and community
- Local govt. representatives and local administration are declaring to allocate budget for CC, CHVs for increasing community awareness as well as facility services
- Health and Family planning officials are playing positive role to develop coordination, cooperation on SRHR-MNH at different levels

9. Enhancing the participation of community based organizations (CBOs) and CSOs in democratic governance in Bangladesh-

Considering Oxfam's REE-CALL 2021 partner, Unnayan Sangha (US) has been implementing the "Enhancing the participation of community based organizations (CBOs) and CSOs in democratic governance in Bangladesh." Project as indirect partner since January 2018 and it will be continued up to June 2021. Basically Oxfam Bangladesh in partnership with Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) initiated the project supported by European Union (EU). **The overall objective of the project is to enhance the participation of community based organizations**



(CBOs) of vulnerable and marginalized communities and civil society organizations (CSOs) in democratic governance in Bangladesh. The project mostly focuses on active citizenship and knowledge management of the rural communities intended to contribute to the implementation of the 7th National Five Year Plan (NFYP) and show realistic path to reach government's Vision 2021.

The Specific Objective(s)/Outcome(s) and Outputs of the Project are-

Outcome(s): To strengthen grassroots CBOs and CSOs to secure the social and economic rights of vulnerable individuals and communities in the design and implementation of government policies and budgets related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Outputs:

R1: CBOs and CSOs have enhanced organizational and influencing capacity to work with local authorities (LAs) to address government commitments on SDGs and the National Five Year Plan (NFYP).

R2: CBOs and CSOs support LAs/LGs to effectively deliver people-centered services as per existing laws and policies relating to SDGs.

R3: Communities, CBOs, and CSOs hold LAs and interest groups accountable on existing laws and policies relating to SDGs

R4: Relevance and effectiveness of SDG framework is enhanced through contextualization at local, national and global levels

Achievement in reporting period:

- Conducted district level inception/sensitization meeting with relevant 46 participants/stakeholders
- Developed and incentivized 12 Community Volunteers
- Conducted district level workshop with relevant local authorities on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) linked policies and programs where 30 persons were attended
- Conducted training on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) linked Policies and Programs with CSOs & media where 25 persons were participated
- Conducted training on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) linked Policies and Programs with CBOs where 27 persons were participated
- Conducted training on public finance management and Social accountability tool for CBOs leaders where 27 persons were participated

Challenges faced:

- Relevant stakeholders are not well known about the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) linked Policies and Programs
- Project activities are very limited to enhance the organizational and influential capacity of CBOs and CSOs for working with local authorities

Immediate results:

- CBOs, CSOs members and other stakeholders are very much interested to know about the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) linked Policies and Programs

10. Socio Economic Empowerment with Dignity and Sustainability (SEEDS) Project-

The project has been implementing at Islampur, Dewanganj and Bakshiganj upazilas under Jamalpur district since January 2019 in partnership with Stromme Foundation Bangladesh and funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and other back Donors. The project will be continued up to December 2023. **The goal of the project is “By end of 2023, 2500 marginalized households of Jamalpur district enjoy the improved socio economic status”.** Total 2,500 extreme poor/marginalized households of specific 6 unions under Islampur, Dewanganj and Bakshiganj upazilas of Jamalpur district will be benefited through the project activities.



The Objectives of the Project are-

- By end of 2023, 9 of people's organizations are institutionalized to address basic rights issues of the marginalized communities.
- 2500 targeted families have improved sustainable livelihood
- By end of 2023, 5714 vulnerable and marginalized eligible children have access to quality primary education
- By end of 2023, 1500 adolescents from marginalized communities are socially and economically empowered to protect their rights
- By end of 2023, 643 Youths from marginalized families equipped with relevant Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) skills

Achievement in reporting period:

- Selection of upazilas, unions and villages as working areas of the project
- Conducted sensitization/inception meeting for the project working upazilas
- Collected households data for selecting eligible project beneficiaries
- Organized staff training on project participants selection, FDP preparation, project activities implementation, SRG and PO formation
- Selected 128 eligible participants for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET)
- Established 8 pre-school centers and finalized MoU of 29 government primary schools for ensuring quality education
- Observed World Women's Day and participated in district and upazila level 16 meetings
- Organized regular basis district and upazila level 16 meetings for project staff

Challenges faced:

- Seasonal migration of local communities including FDP families
- Right based approach in the project areas instead of support based approach
- Ensure participation of all family members during Family Development Plan (FDP) exercise
- Relief mentality of project participants
- Adverse communication specially for char areas to ensure quality education
- Maximum primary schools teachers of char areas are living in upazila headquarter so that ensure quality education is very difficult.

Immediate results:

- Project staffs have already developed a very good relationship/an enable environment with UPz and UP officials for smooth implementation of project activities
- Project staffs have gained enough knowledge and skills for project implementation
- Rapport building with education department at district and upazila levels
- Project participants have been organizing through People Organizations (PO)

11. Housing Project-

The housing project has been implementing since 2017 with the credit support from Housing Fund of Bangladesh Bank under the Prime Minister's Office. The program has been implementing at Dewanganj and Islampur upazilas of Jamalpur district. **The goal of the program is "Improved living condition through affordable housing for poor and lower-**



income communities of Bangladesh” During the reporting period from July 2018-June 2019, total 80 group numbers of SMP received loan per members Tk.70,000 for their house making very low interest rate with technical supports from Unnayan Sangha. It is also mentioned that the households who constructed their houses with the supports from Unnayan Sangha mandatorily they constructed water sealed latrines and maintaining hygienic practices in their families. The organization has a plan for financial year to provide housing supports among more households and already submitted proposal to Bangladesh Bank for providing Housing Fund for 500 more households. Loan realization rate of housing loan is satisfactory.

The objectives of the program are-

- Improved national growth through ensuring equitable growth of poor and lower-income communities
- Reduced poverty and strengthen communities through helping poor and lower-income households build assets
- Improved living conditions and empowering the middle and lower-income population

Achievement in reporting period:

- Distributed housing loan per household Tk. 70,000 and total Tk. 56,00,000 among 80 eligible households
- Realized due loan 100% and total loan Tk. 23,24,662 from respective housing loan receivers
- Outstanding loan amount stand on Tk. 54,25,229 as of 30th 2019 including last year loan balance

Challenges faced:

- Limited beneficiaries selection from huge eligible households
- Migration of program beneficiaries due to flood prone and river erosion working areas

Immediate results:

- Living condition of poor and lower-income households increased
- Lower interest rate is encouraging more eligible households
- No default loan considering affordable payment system

12. Savings Management Program (SMP)-

This is one of the basic programs of the organization started in 1980, which continued with different donor supports. Since 1994 the program has been implementing in Jamalpur Sadar, Melandah, Madarganj, Islampur and Dewanganj upazilas of Jamalpur district and Sherpur Sadar, Nakla and Jhinaigati of Sherpur district in assistance of organizational own fund. **The goal of the program is sustainable socio-economic development of poor and extreme poor households involving them with comfortable IGAs and creating savings mentality.**

Actually, the organization initiated this program for supporting most financially and socially vulnerable people those who have no any access to receive loan from other existing microfinance institutes and deposit their very little amount of savings weekly basis. As per the rules and regulations of US Savings Management Program, eligible poor and extreme poor households have easy access to form a group within 15-30 members and deposit their weekly basis savings based on capacity. On the



other hand, all group members have the scope to take need based loan against savings and withdraw their deposited savings easily during any emergency.

The objectives of the program are-

Objective 1: Poor and extreme poor households have ensured sustainable income source involving them with suitable IGAs

Objective 2: Targeted households have their accumulated own savings as working capital for initiating their potential IGAs

Achievement in reporting period:

- Formed 3 new groups, enrolled 618 members in new and existing groups
- Phased out and dropped out total 495 members from groups
- Weekly group savings collection Tk.60,11,042 and group savings returned Tk.36,92,560
- Interest given on group members savings Tk.5,92,468 and cumulative group savings balance with organization Tk.1,63,41,629 as of 31 June 2019
- Loan disbursed Tk. 3,07,62,000 among 1331 members and loan realized Tk. 2,64,83,757
- Realization rate 98%, outstanding loan Tk. 2,56,35,553 as of 31st June 2019 and total overdue Tk.4,23,125 as of June 2019
- Total yearly income Tk. 41,98,219, expenditure Tk. 35,17,414 and income over Expenditure Tk. 6,80,805

Challenges faced:

- Fund crisis for revolving
- Less staff salary comparison with other MFIs
- Skill development training for staff and members
- Less loan volume as field demand
- Partial savings return of group members during crisis period
- 10% compulsory savings for loan receiving of members
- Insurance coverage only death of loanee not earning member/witness of families

Immediate results:

- Households level sustainable income of poor and extreme poor families have increased than earlier
- Poor and extreme poor households have become more solvent using program loan in their chosen IGAs
- Savings mentality have grown up among program targeted households and they have gained access to use own accumulated savings fund for income generation
- Target households have developed their linkages with other suitable MFIs for receiving need based medium size loan supports

13. US Child City-

The organization established an amusement park especially for the children manifestation and well entertainments in 2016 with the maximum investment from organizational staffs. The name of the park is “Unnayan Sangha-Child City” which is situated at



Dewrpar Chandra under Jamalpur Poursava. **The goal of the amusement park is “Increased local level amusement facilities for every age’s people especially easy access of children for reducing social decadence”.** As there were no available enjoyment facilities at Jamalpur Town for every age’s people so that the organization initiated to establish such type of amusement park named Unnyan Sangha-Child City. Since the establishment many people especially huge children have been coming here regularly and occasionally to enjoy different rides.

The objectives of the program are-

- Every age’s people especially children have recreation access at local level for reducing social dissolution
- Organization has lengthened additional income source providing social business services for its sustainability.

Achievement in reporting period:

- Every age’s huge people especially children have come at US-Child City for their enjoyment
- Some beautification works have done to make more enjoyable for the visitors/clients
- During reporting period total incomes Tk.15,44,650, total expenditures Tk.15,20,822 and income over expenditures Tk.43,828 only

Challenges faced:

- Lack of fund limited beautification works are performing
- Similar type of several amusement parks already established in the areas

Immediate results:

- Since beginning US-Child City has been making net profit continuously

14. Development Training and Resource Center (DTRC)-

Unnyan Sangha (US) established a training and resource center in 2008 with the suitable residential facilities and training venues at Dewarpar Chandra, Jamalpur-2000. The name of the training centre is Development Training and Resource Center (DTRC). The training center is situated under Jamalpur Poursava in a very charming place. The training center has total air cooler and non air cooler accommodation facilities for 65 guests, 3 different sizes air cooler and non-air cooler hall/training rooms with the capacity of setting arrangement respectively



70 persons, 60 persons and 35 persons at a time. Other facilities like- Wi-Fi, dining, library, musical instruments, generator, multimedia projector, computer, sound systems etc. are available at these venues. All these venues are open for conducting need based training, meeting for the organization as well as other organizations. **The goal of the training centre is “Skill development of organizational staff including research on development activities and increased sustainable income for organization providing training facilities to other organizations”.** The organization believes that organizational staffs become knowledgeable and skill through receiving training on different development issues and so that they would be able to implement organizational programs activities very efficiently.

The objectives of the program are-

- Improved knowledge and skill on development issues for organizational staff
- Research and publication regarding different thematic areas of development

- Increased organizational income selling training facilities to other organizations

Achievement in reporting period:

- Facilitated total 55 effective trainings/meetings for different programs/projects like- NSVC, SEEDS, Imp. SRHR-MNH, REE-CALL2021, BIeNGS, SMP, SFP etc of the organization where 1655 persons participated
- Facilitated total 54 effective trainings/meetings by other organizations like-ESDO, DAM, DMA, PARI Development, ASTA Project, Square Food Beverage Limited, Oponin Pharma Limited, ASA, United Purpose, LAMB, Sabolambi Unnayan Samity, CDD, WARB Development Foundation, Christian Aid, SHOMOTA etc where 1375 persons participated
- Generated income through providing trainings/meetings facilities for other organizations
- Constructed one more training venue using training benefits for extension of training facilities
- Improved existing training facilities to make more comfortable for training participants
- During reporting period total incomes Tk.58,66,384, total expenditures Tk.55,67,138 and income over expenditures Tk.2,99,246 only

Challenges faced:

- Available fund for improving training facilities as per needs of clients
- Limitation of training budget for different clients

Immediate results:

- Different programs/projects staffs could arrange their trainings/meeting as per timelines
- Other organizations enjoyed training and meeting access as per their requirement

Financial Management-

For better finance management, Unnayan Sangha (US) maintains donors and projects/programs wise Bank Accounts. The organization also maintains double entry accounting system, receipts and payments accounts, money transfer receipts, income and expenditures accounts, approval of expenditures, bill and vouching, stock maintain, procurement, supply, accounts checking, expenditure control, internal/annual external auditing and reporting properly and regularly according to the direction of financial guideline developed and approved by the executive committee of the organization.

Personnel Management-

Development and survival of any institutions depends on skilled, experienced and committed staffs. So staff or personnel management is very much important for any of the organization. Considering the matter, Unnayan Sangha (US) developed a personnel policy in 1986, which is modified respectively in last 1998, 2004, 2010, 2011 and 2015. For recruiting and developing staff, training, leave enjoyment, promotion and demotion, honorarium and other facilities, disciplinary action and other related issues maintain as per direction of personnel procedure.

Policies/Guidelines-

The organization has different policies which have been practicing regularly to keep the organizational transparency and accountability up to the marks. The name of these policies are given below-

- Human Resource Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Organizational Strategic Plan
- Audit Manual

- Disability Inclusion Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Financial Management guideline
- Gender and Equity Policy
- Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Monitoring and Evaluation System
- Micro Credit Operation Manual
- Cash Transfer Policy
- Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy

Membership/Relationship with National, International Association and Forums-

- Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB)
- Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF)
- Credit and Development Forum (CDF)
- Child Welfare Board
- Civil Society Alliance for Scaling Up Nutrition (CSA-SUN)
- National Alliance of Humanitarian Actors Bangladesh (NAHAB)
- GBV Cluster
- Asian Health Institute-Japan
- Home Net South Asia, India

Projects with US's own Resources-

- ❖ Development Training and Resource Center (DTRC)
- ❖ Savings Management Program (SMP)
- ❖ Unnayan Sangha-Child City (Amusement Park)
- ❖ Child, Women Protection and Human Rights Project
- ❖ Multipurpose Firm (Fish Ponds, Vegetable Garden /Flower/Fruits and
- ❖ Tree Garden

Income and Expenditure during reporting financial year-

Total Income : Tk.11, 42, 39,830
 Total Expenditure : Tk.11, 35.80.574
 Income over Expenditure : Tk.6, 59,256

Donors/Partners-

US worked in the reporting year with different donors/partners. The major donor/partners are- Directorate of Primary Education, Bangladesh Bank/Housing Fund, Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), European Union (EU), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), UNCEF, World Food Program (WFP), OXFAM Bangladesh, World Vision Bangladesh, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Stromme Foundation Bangladesh, Manobadhiker Sangskriti Foundation (MSF), Center for Policy Dialogue (CDP) and Aparajeyo Bangladesh.

Case Study- **Youth employment through vocational Training**

Introduction: I have spent last few years living in trouble because of the death of my father. Those are very scary days. Mr. Mostafzur, son of late- Sabed Ali and Mrs. Hafeza Begum , village- Kalkihara Vati, Union-Merur Char under Bakshiganj Sub-District of Jamalpur district said with weeping. He is known as Rubel in his village. He said I am grateful to Unnayan Sangha and OXFAM in Bangladesh for providing me training on mobile servicing through the REE-CALL2021 project. Currently, using these skills achieved through training I have been able to get involved in earning. He said “I have dreams I will be a big businessman and I will grow the business by paying more capital day by day”.

The previous situation before join to REECALL: Rubel is the youngest of three brothers and three sisters. He is 25 years old. They have Patriarchal property about 1 acre of land with homestead. After the death of his father, his family faced different types of problems. They had no alternative income source. In this situation, his elder brother goes to Dhaka with the help of an uncle. His family lives in poverty. After passing Intermediate and Rubel admitted BA but his studies were closed due to financial crises.

Rubel's frustration was increasing day by day. His sisters are married with the help of another relative. Due to the disability of her younger sister, her husband left a daughter after few years of marriage. Rubel's elder brothers separated because of increased family burdens. Rubel goes under the great tribulation. In 2010, the sister with disabilities was trained in sewing and involved in income. With no other option, Rubel started out as a community volunteer with a salary of Tk. 2000. It was not sufficient money to maintain his family, so he leaves work. In 2018, he joined the Recall Project as a youth and received a 3-month's training on mobile servicing.

Changes: After completion of training Rubel establishes a mobile servicing shop at lutfarganj bazaar under Bakshiganj Sub-District in Jamalpur district. He starts the business by renting a shop for monthly Tk. 400. The electricity was not available in this bazaar. So he installed a solar panel in his shop. At present, he sells mobile parts and in addition works on mobile servicing, as well as Photoshop, documents printing and color photo printing. He earns more than Tk 15,000 monthly excluding all expenses. At present, total investment of Rubel in his business Tk. 150,000 as capital. He said that “the electricity connection at the area will be available within a few days, and then I will grow the business by increasing the capital through bank loans which is my dream”.



Opinion: Rubel thinks that the technical training is very effective to do something for earning to maintain family. Unemployed youth will be able to engage in various economic activities by utilizing their knowledge and skills achieved through receiving such training. Therefore, these types of training can help youth to overcome problems relating financial solvency and social dignity.

Case Story: Initiative to Establish Flood shelter by the CBO of REECALL 2021

CBO Name: Sorjouddoy Gram Unnayan Sangha, Village: Purbo Kolkihara, Union: Merurchar, Upazila: Bakshiganj, District: Jamapalur. Total Members of Executive body is 25, and total households are 435.

Probo Kalkihara village is the flood-affected area of Merurchar Union, Bakshiganj Upazila under Jamalpur district. It is near to the Dasani River. This is the area where flooding happens every year and most of the people suffer seriously. The villagers lost assets such as houses, croplands, cattle and other movable and unmovable assets. There were no limits to human sufferings. The flood does so much harm to the people and made the poor poorer. There is no scope somewhere to stay for people to shelter during floods. Due to the flood, all areas are submerged under the water. The villagers have been suffering for a long time and they have been seeking shelter in this village since a long past.

In this situation, an initiative was taken by the CBO named **Sorjouddoy Gram Unnayan Sangha at Purbo kalkihara** started in 2010 by REE-CALL Project to develop flood shelter. CBO leaders Mr. Ziaul Sajan (Chairman) and Lovely Begum (Secretary) called upon a CBO meeting of their CBO and discussed with other members on how to make disaster risk reduction due to the flood. All the members imposed the executive leaders to communicate with Chairman of Merurchar Union, local administration of Bokshiganj and other concerned authorities.

As decision of CBO, Mr. Ziaul Sajan (Chairman) and Lovely Begum (Secretary) communicate with UNO and Chairman of Merurchar Union and submit an application to the Chairman. One week later of submitting application and based on public demand the Chairman took initiative and prepared a list of Khas land under the Merurchar union in assistance of the AC Land Office. The AC land office identified that 120 decimal (3.5 bighas) khas land which was occupied by another person. The people of the area demanded that a shelter center should be built on this khas land. So CBO leaders again organized a special meeting

with the people of the area to free the occupation of the Khas land. After the meeting, the people applied to AC land office to visit the place. Their efforts were sustained and 100 decimal (3 bighas) of Khas were occupied. The UNO and AC-land visited the site in response to the public appeal.

In order to take action, When the Member of Parliament (MP) came to Bakshiganj the community people again applied to him to solve the problem in the area regarding flood shelter. The MP took steps and assures it to be implemented.

As a result of the demand of the community people, in 2018, the earth work for filling this low land was started by allocating 145 tons of wheat for the flood shelter. The half building for the 40-families and tube well and latrines for each family have been allocated, which is under construction. After completing construction of this flood shelter the vulnerable households will be benefitted significantly from it.



Sawpna got a sewing machine from UP Chairman

Mr. Rokon Mia, Union Facilitator (UF) under the staff of Community based interventions for Improving Sexual, Reproductive health and Rights including Maternal and newborn health project of Unnayan Sangha (US). He has been appointed on 1st December'18 as a UF and after getting project orientation he started his field activities on full swing from 07 December'18.

Firstly, he tried to introduce with all stakeholder who doing health related activities, He also given priority on local elite, Government service providers, Non-Government service providers and local elected bodies. In the meantime Rokon is well known person to others service providers and Union Parishad members and chairman. As the project design Community Health Volunteer (CHV) were on board for every new ward and getting 03 days training for performing their activities properly. They conducting group meeting with mothers and adolescents and delivering health messages regularly. On the other hand Rokon Mia continuously keeping coordination and updating information to his assigned Union parishad members by this time Chairman of Shahbazpur Union Parishad visited some field activities; the Chairman is satisfied and said "obviously the project will be helpful for the poor peoples and I hope many of mother and newborn will save from maternal and newborn death." In that visit, Chairman Mr. Ayub Ali Khan has informed that the CHVs are delivering their services within the minimum honorarium and he given commitment to attend the CHVs monthly Refreshers training/meeting and he physically attended in the CHVs refreshers training of June'19.



Sawpna , CHV received swing machine from UP chairman, Sahabajpur

In that time individually he discussed with CHVs on the issues of their activities, time duration and nature of work. After that he declared to support 04 swing machines to 04 CHVs and said time to time all or 09 CHVs will get swing machine from me. He requested to prepare list for 04 CHVs on basis of need. Rokon Mia prepared a list and sends to Chairman by 07 days. On 04 July'19 Chairman Mr. Ayub Ali Khan called to Rokon Mia and informed to receive 01 machine for 01 CHV and Rokon mia called the CHV Sawpna, ward no. 05 and finally received swing machine. Chairman said, with in the short time I will support another 03 CHVs.

After receiving the swing machine, Sawpna expressed her gratitude to Chairman and Union Facilitator. She has a plan to ensure her sustainable family income source using the sewing machine and increase more income sources like-poultry, duck and goat rearing through the income from sewing machine.

A successful Woman Entrepreneur of Kawner Char Village

“This is the best way for woman to earn income and I have to take this opportunity” uttered Lizu Begum. Lizu Begum lives with her husband Md. Assadun Zaman at the village Kawner Char in Dewanganj Sadar Union of Dewanganj Upazila. She has one son and one daughter. She is a housewife and her husband is a small farmer. She is a second wife of Md. Assaduzaman. She used to cultivate vegetable in the homestead unused space using conventional ways for consumption. She never had any opportunity to participate in discussion or training on Women Entrepreneur before becoming member of NSVC Project. She participated in training and discussion on women entrepreneurs and other income generation activities. After having training she was enthusiastic and exploring opportunities to initiate small business which will ensure additional income for the family.

NSVC Initiative:

Nutrition Sensitive Value Chains for Smallholder Farmers Project started to work in this Union in February 2018 and selected Lizu Begum as beneficiary. Following this, Lizu was given an opportunity to take initiative of women entrepreneurship. She was given Power Trillar and trained her



Present Status:

After having this support and orientation, she started to utilize her hidden talent with the assistance of her husband and son. With the assistance of her husband she entered into tillage market. She started to tillage land as hiring basis. She tilled 414 Biga land and earned Tk. 102000.00(One lak two thousand). She spent Tk. 37000.00(Thirty Seven thousand) for maintenance, oil and lubricating purposes. She purchased a cow with the profit of Tk. 40000.00(Forty thousand) and save Tk. 25000.00 (twenty five thousand). ***“By the grace of Allah and of NSVC project, we are now happy and have found out the way of getting income”*** she said. She is happy now because she is owner of one Power Tiller and a cow. Both son and daughter are schooling. Now neighbors believe Lizu as a successful woman Entrepreneur.

Future Plan:

She is promising to generate this income generation and encourage her neighbors and relatives to follow this kind of initiative.

She has chalked-out a plan to purchase a bull with the profit she will gain in the next season. She is also decided to open an account of DPS in bank. ***“My ultimate goal is to become owner of cow farm in the future”*** she proclaimed with smiling face. She is grateful to NSVC project authority and expects more assistance towards developing woman in this area.

[illegible]

Conclusion-

Unnayan Sangha (US) has been working with the supports of different donors, partners and other stakeholders since 1980 for sustainable development of the most vulnerable extreme poor, poor, small and marginal farmer, children, women and people with disabilities. During last working period, the organization implemented a couple of development programs/projects with the most vulnerable target people/households to make positive changes in their lives and families. All these programs/projects successfully implemented following existing rules, guidelines and policies of the organization to ensure accountability and transparency. However, the organization always appreciates any kinds of feedbacks, recommendations and suggestions from individuals, practitioners, professionals and related institutions relating further development of most vulnerable community people.

